REMARKS

It is respectfully requested that the examination of this application proceed on the basis of

the amendatory action taken herein and that this amendment be entered prior to calculating the

filing fee and according the application a filing date.

Support for the new set of claims can be found in the claims of the International

Application PCT/EP00/03586 as filed.

It is respectfully submitted that the claims distinguish over Pannell, U.S. 5,288,632 by

evidence provided by Gruenwald et al. and Sagar et al., WO 94/22572. Accordingly the §102

rejection has been overcome and should be withdrawn.

The claims also serve to distinguish over the same set of references mentioned above

which were objected to in the Final Rejection under §103(a). Accordingly, this rejection has also

been overcome and should be withdrawn.

The issuance of a Notice of Allowance with respect to claims 34-49 is respectfully

solicited.

Please charge any fees which may be due to our Deposit Account No. 01-0035.

Respectfully submitted

Y & CINAMON

Registration No. 24,156

Attorney for Applicant

ABELMAN FRAYNE & SCHWAB

150 East 42nd Street

New York, New York 10017-5612

Tel. (212) 949-9022

Fax(212)949-9190

6